



Background

Fotherby is a small village in East Lindsey district with a population of around 520 living in around 220 properties. The village lies partly within the Lincolnshire Wolds east of the hills with land running off to the east onto the flatlands of East Lincolnshire.

This document is a working record updated as events occur and was first created in Spring 2025. There are several sources of flooding in Fotherby triggered by both heavy rainfall and named storm events leading to both surface water run-off and sewage flooding. Sewers reach capacity during heavy rain and storm events leading to surcharge and overflow and local dykes can overtop. There is also known local surface water runoff from fields affecting isolated properties. Internal flooding of properties has not been evidenced to date.

The Aim

This document is to maintain an up-to-date record of surface water/sewage flooding within Fotherby village. This information can be shared with all relevant flood agencies* so that any decisions about the village affecting sewerage or surface water flooding are better informed. Agencies include East Lindsey District Council (ELDC) Drainage Officer and ELDC Planning Officer. This document helps ensure

the most up to date knowledge is used to make informed decisions and recommendations on future planning/development applications in Fotherby.

*Anglian Water

Lincolnshire County Council - Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)

Environment Agency

Environmental Services

Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board

ELDC Drainage Officer

ELDC Planning Officer

Source of Surface Water Runoff

The principal source of surface water runoff is from the field drains and ditches on higher ground to the west of the A16 via an attenuation chamber, underground culverts and drainage dykes opening at the Dock and crossing the village down towards the east. A second open dyke crosses Peppin Lane near the rail crossing. These dykes meet and flow down across the flatlands to the east. Significant runoff can occur during storm events including Storm Babet (Oct 23) and Storm Henk (Jan 25)

Source of Sewerage System Spills

The sewerage system is owned and operated by Anglian Water and is a combined system (receiving both foul and surface water). The village received a first-time sewerage system in the early 1970's when a system of sewers and a pumping station was installed, and individual property septic tanks were abandoned. In brief:

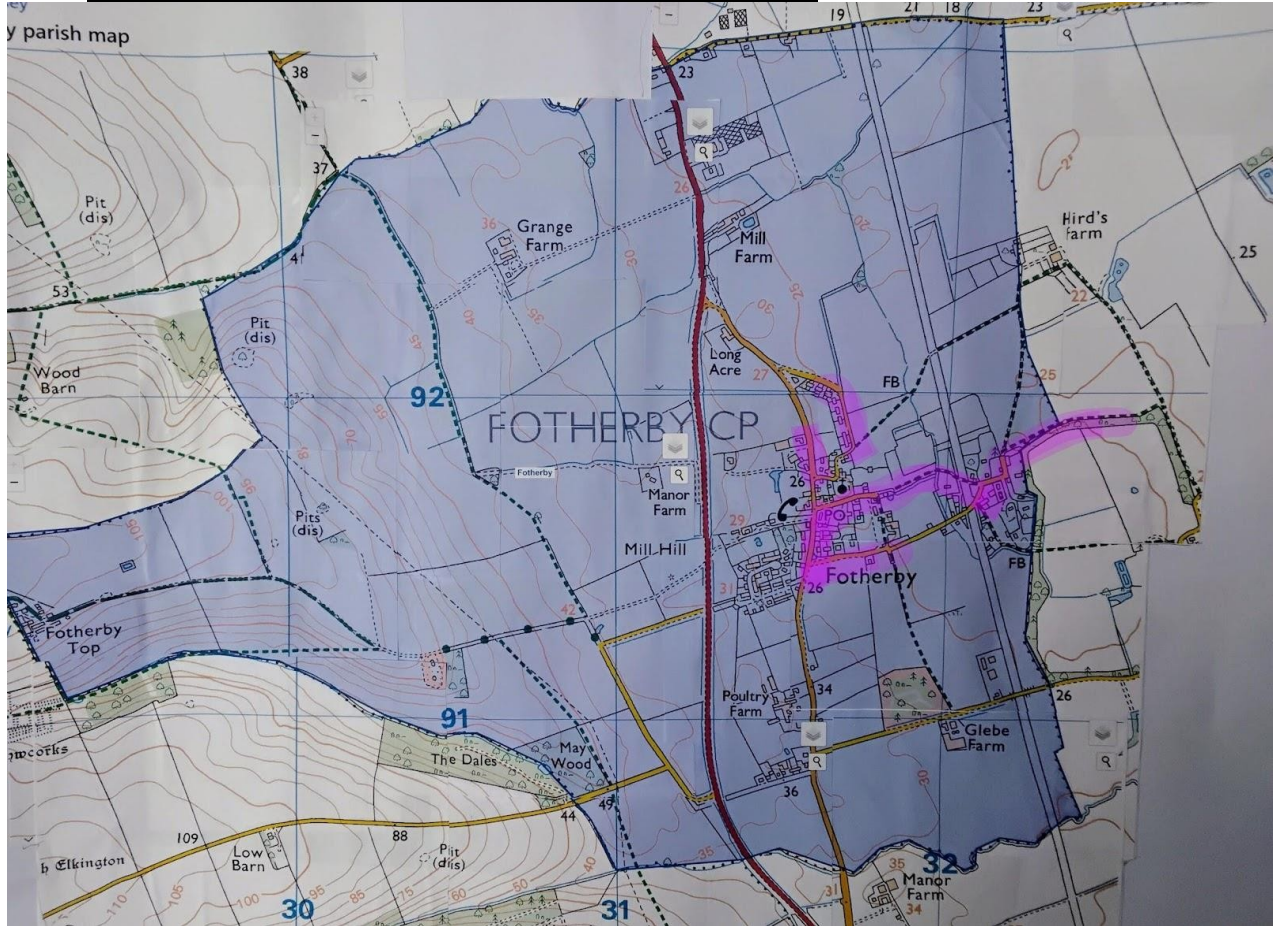
- sewage is pumped from Utterby Pumping Station (PS) via Allenby Crescent into Fotherby Pumping Station (PS) located in lower Peppin Lane. The catchment includes Ludborough village where sewage is pumped via Utterby into Fotherby PS. The Fotherby PS also receives combined sewage by gravity from Fotherby village into 2 deep underground tanks containing submersible pumps.
- sewage is pumped from Fotherby PS under pressure to Louth Water Recycling Centre (WRC) for treatment and discharge to Louth Canal
- During storm events, the Fotherby sewers and tanks can fill to capacity, overflow from manholes and prevent service at a small number of homes including those at a low point in Allenby Crescent and in lower Peppin Lane. A small number of residents in Allenby Crescent have suffered loss of service during heavy rain for around 19 years.
- In late 2024, the Fotherby PS pumps were upgraded to increase flows to Louth WRC and flows from Utterby PS were reduced to lessen the risk of Fotherby sewers overflowing and loss of service to the high-risk homes especially in Allenby Crescent except in the most extreme storms.
- Two bursts of the pumping main from Fotherby PS to Louth WRC occurred late 2024 in a private paddock and an air valve subsequently replaced to lessen the risk of further bursts

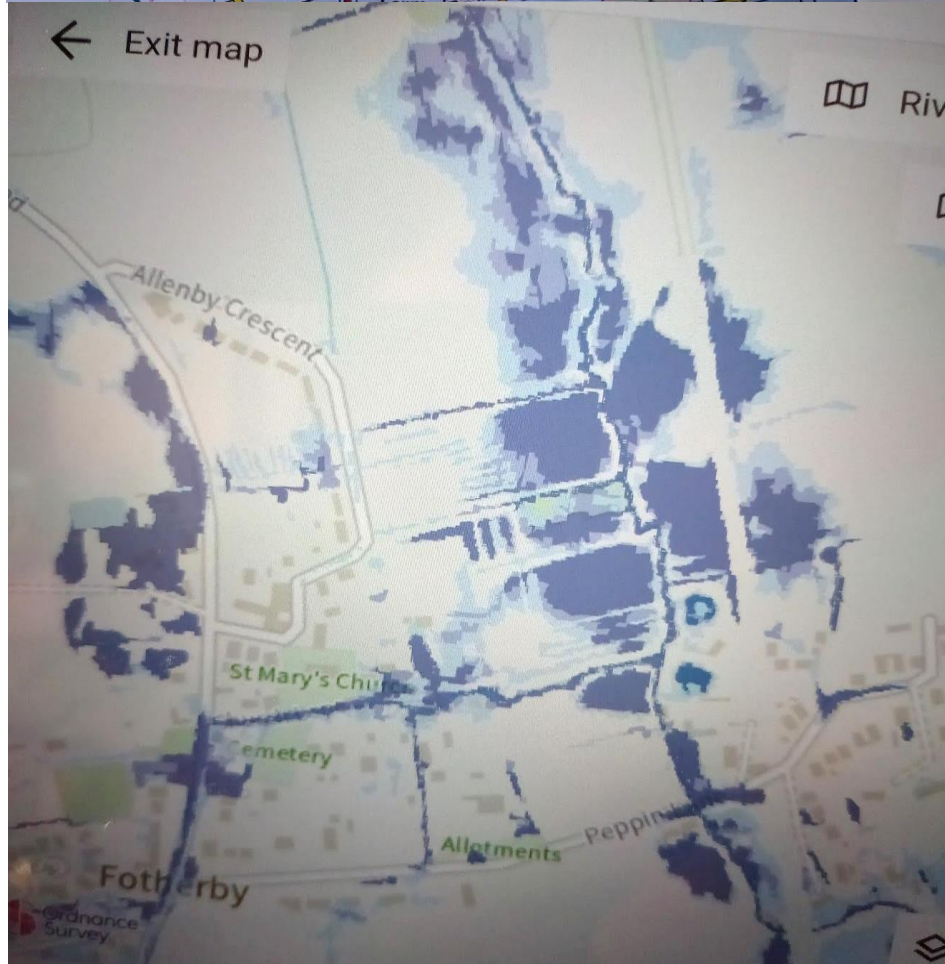
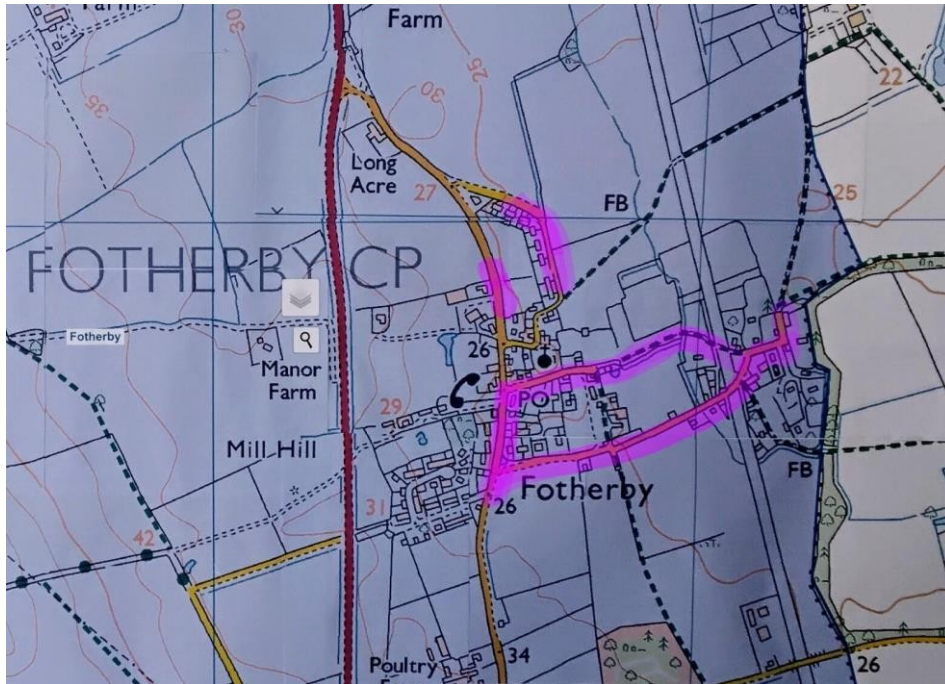
Contents of Fotherby Village Flood Document

1. Surface/sewage water flooding areas (map) in Fotherby Village
2. Flooding pictures Church Lane/the brook in Church Lane

3. Flooding pictures Louth Road (Fotherby House)
4. Flooding pictures Louth Road (Cliftonville).
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9. Flooding event Glebe Farm – Little Grimsby Lane
10. Contact Telephone Numbers and e-mail addresses.
11. Interventions

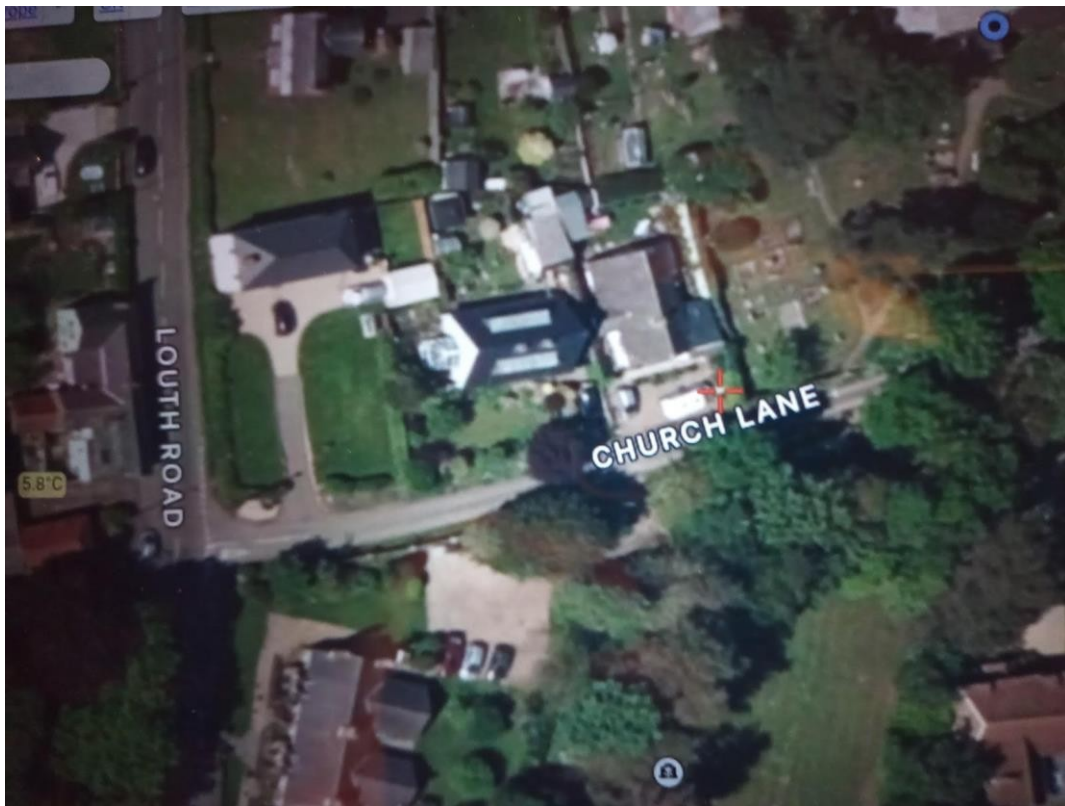
1. Surface water/sewage flooding map in Fotherby.
(Surface/sewage water flood areas shaded pink)



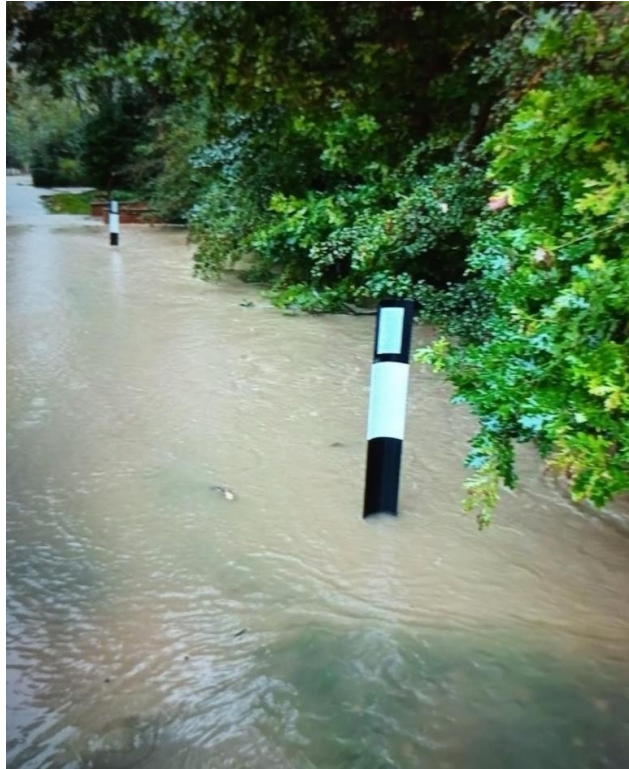


Environment Agency Surface Water Flood Map

0. Flooding: Church Lane (Map to show Church Lane & Photos)



Church Lane looking east: Storm Babet (Oct 23). Standing water and flooding in the lane. (In the distance the sewage manhole cover can be seen spurting.)



Church Lane dyke overflowing dyke looking east, continuing down the whole length of the lane (Storm Babet, Oct 23)



Church Lane looking east, outside Holly Cottage, runoff from overflowing dyke with the Old Hall in the distance (Storm Babet Oct 23)



Church Lane East - flooding in the grounds of The Laurels, Church Lane (Storm Babet Oct 23)



Open dyke (cleared post Storm Babet) in flood (Jan 2025) to increase flow downstream in flood, passing between the Old Sunday School, Church Lane and Mawer's Farm

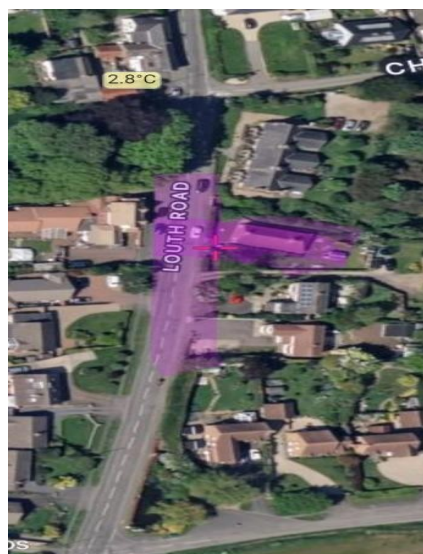


Sewer flooding in sheep field east of Church Lane Storm Henk January 2025



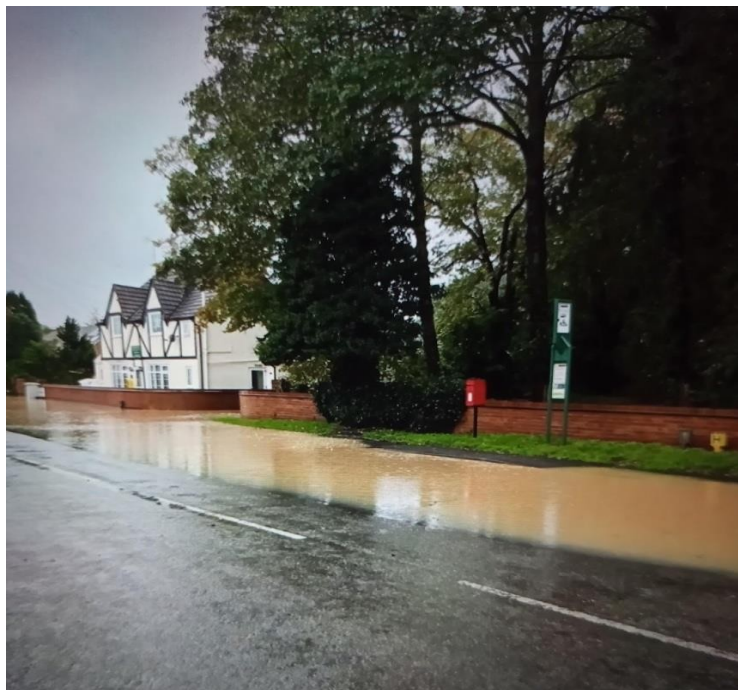
Sewer flooding in sheep field east of Church Lane Storm Henk looking east - January 2025

3. Flooding: Louth Road (Surface/sewage water flood areas shaded pink)





Surface water flooding from overflow at the Dock pooling at low point outside Fotherby Care Home, Louth Road. Some ingress of flood water into kitchen (Storm Babet Oct 23)



Second view of overflow from the Dock outside Fotherby Care Home, Louth Road, during Storm Babet (Oct 23)



Louth Road, looking North, outside Willowcroft and towards Fotherby Care Home and Church Lane – Storm Babet Oct 23

4. Flooding: Louth Road (Cliftonville)

(Surface/sewage water flood areas shaded pink)



Open dyke from culvert bridge, looking east, side Cliftonville, Louth Road during Storm Babet (Oct 23)

5. Flooding: Louth Road ('The Dock'/Peppin Lane).



Peppin Lane and Louth Road junction showing overflowing 'Dock' covering the entire road width and beyond. Fed from culvert and attenuation chamber near A16 Short Lane (Storm Babet Oct 23)



View of the 'Dock' during Storm Babet (Oct 23) – water levels were around 2 metres higher than normal

The footpath behind the Dock became flooded and impassible



Flooding Louth Road near (Manna Farm)

Under extreme rainfall, Louth Rd floods with surface water across the carriageway. The camber of the road falls to the west where surface gullies are located at the kerbside. There is no ditch on the west side. There is also no public sewer network along this section of road so surface water is likely to be piped under the road from the gullies to the ditch on the east side.

Regular planned maintenance of the road gullies is likely to help alleviate surface water flooding in this area.

No photos of this surface water flooding are available.

Flooding: Peppin Lane

Details of reports/incidents made to Anglian Water from Dec 2021 to Dec 2023 - Peppin Lane

Date	AW Ref No	Date	AW Ref No
27/12/2021	21076791	02/11/2023	24571715
21/10/2023	24496287	02/11/2023	477376*
24/10/2023	24517123	09/12/2023	24773277
26/10/2023	24536641	27/12/2023	24869845

*via LCC Fix My Street



Flooding outside 'The Willows', 'Ashleigh House' and 'Greenacres' in Peppin Lane (Storm Babet Oct 23)





Flooding outside 'Esperance', 'Lone Birch and 'Hotspurs', Peppin Lane Storm Babet (Oct 23)



Low point in Peppin Lane (note surcharged sewer cover discharging) during Storm Babet Oct 23

Details of reports/incidents made to Anglian Water from January 2024 to January 2025 - Allenby Crescent

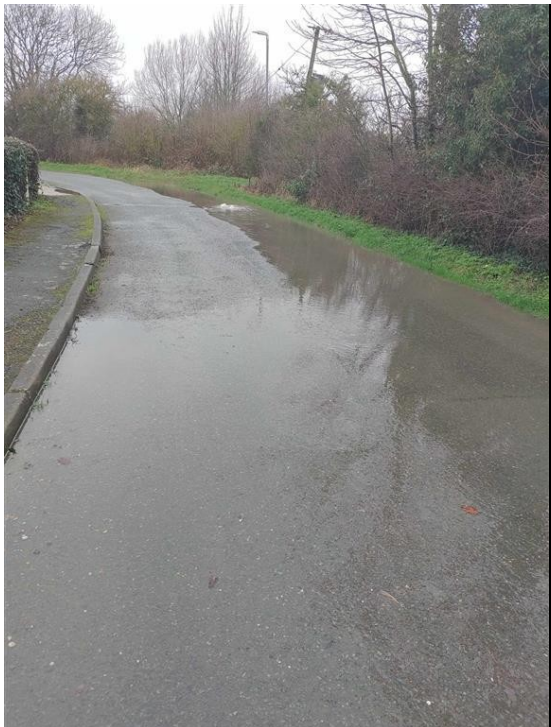
Date	Ref No	Date	Ref No	Date	Ref No
16/02/2020	18094095	26/11/2023	24612022	10/03/2024	24885868
17/02/2020	18094095	01/01/2024	24885868	23/07/2024	25573278
18/02/2020	18094095	02/01/2024	24885868	30/07/2024	25573278
21/03/2020	18212558	04/01/2024	24885868	06/08/2024	25573278
09/11/2023	24612022	15/01/2024	24885868		
19/06/2023	62528749	29/01/2024	24885868		
01/01/2024	24886715	28/04/2024	25628191	20/03/2024	25459979
02/01/2024	63437797	22/05/2024	25744900	28/04/2024	25628191
08/02/2024	25206299	16/07/2024	26009264	16/07/2024	26009264
08/02/2024	26670037	19/07/2024	26022749	8/12/2024	26670027
11/02/2024	25216000	8/12/2024	26670027	22/05/2024	25744661
22/02/2024	252759900	11/02/2024	25217884	16/07/2024	26006222
20/03/2024	254599799	22/02/2024	25275990	5/01/2025	26785396
06/01/2025	26788174				

Anglian Water reference numbers quoted.

8. Flooding Allenby Crescent/ Allenby Close



Corner Allenby Cres showing surcharging sewer pumped from Utterby pumping station leading to sewage spills following heavy rainfall



Requesting a free call back on their:
Contact Us page.

E mail custservice@anglianwater.co.uk

Using WhatsApp messaging

Reporting an issue on their:

Anglian Water's WhatsApp contact center is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM to 6 PM, Saturday from 8:30 AM to 3 PM, and Sunday from 10:30 AM to 3 PM. The service is closed on bank holidays.

Lincolnshire County Council LCC: Lead Local Flood Authority:

Telephone 01522 782082.

E-mail: floodrisk@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Flood Reliance Team

Email: cschighways@lincolnshire.gov.uk

LCC Highways: Report via the application “Fix my street”

If internal flooding into the home has occurred, this will invoke a Section 19 report; details below:

Section 19 investigations refer to the requirements under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, where Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) must investigate flood incidents when necessary. These investigations result in a public report detailing the circumstances of the flood event and identifying the responsible risk management authorities and their roles in managing the risks. The LLFAs are obligated to conduct these investigations upon becoming aware of internal flooding in their area.

East Lindsey District Council:**Mr Steve Ross Technical Drainage Officer:**

Telephone: 01507 613494

E-mail: Steve.ross@e-lindsey.gov.uk

Environmental protection :

E-mail: environmental.protection@E-lindsey.gov.uk Tel no:01507 613490

ELDC is the lead authority for flood risk working with other agencies to help reduce flood risk via a collaborative approach. Flooding often has no single root cause and needs the input and collaborative working from the various agencies to reduce overall risk.

Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board

Telephone no: 01507 328095 e-mail: enquiries@lmdb.co.uk

They undertake works to reduce the flood risk to people and property and manage water levels for agricultural and environmental needs within their district.

11. Interventions in Fotherby village

This provides a brief record of interventions that the Fotherby PC are aware of as part of the ongoing dialogue with flood risk agencies. This section will be continuously updated as material interventions are made to lessen flood risk and where this is important for the future as part of this record of events.

2023 - AW fitted non return valves (NRV's) to a small number of properties at high risk of sewer surcharge in Allenby Crescent and Peppin Lane. NRV's are fitted to the sewer lateral to the property to prevent backflow of sewage into the house connection during storm surcharge. Protects the property against internal flooding via drains during storm events.

2023 - AW carried out an extensive survey and cleansing of sewers in Allenby Crescent to increase capacity and to confirm sewer configuration to reduce risk of surcharge during high rainfall

Autumn 2023 - 1st maintenance event on open dyke in Church Lane near the Old Hall following witnessed flooding from surface water during Storm Babet. Clearance targeted to increase capacity/flow of the dyke downstream of the culvert to lessen risk of upstream flooding.

Spring 2024 – purchase of sandbags and sandbag store by Fotherby PC for emergency deployment of sandbags to vulnerable properties in the community during storm conditions located to the rear of the Old Hall in Church Lane east.

Autumn 2024 – 2nd maintenance event on open dyke in Church Lane near the Old Hall to increase capacity downstream of the piped culvert and increase throughput of culvert and dyke during storm conditions in Church Lane. Proven effective during Storm Henk (Jan 25) where surface water flooding was not repeated in Church Lane.

Autumn 2024 – improvements made to surface water dykes in fields behind Allenby Crescent bungalows to divert surface water runoff into dykes and culvert to remove risk of runoff into rear gardens. A longstanding issue over many decades resolved to reduce surface water flooding and infiltration into the local foul sewer system from combined sewerage systems within Allenby Crescent homes.

Autumn 2024 - Anglian Water replaced the two sewage pumps at Fotherby PS which increased flow from the village to Louth WRC. The pump controls at Utterby were changed from duty/assist (both pumps running) to duty/standby (one pump running) reducing the peak flow of sewage from Utterby PS, along Allenby Crescent and into Fotherby PS thereby reducing the frequency of the sewer surcharging in Allenby Crescent. This will reduce the number of sewage spills from manholes and loss of sewerage services to homes in Allenby Crescent except in extreme conditions of storm when two pumps at Utterby PS may be used to lessen flood risk in Utterby village.

Autumn 2024 - two bursts of the sewage pumping main happened in a private paddock in Peppin Lane thought to be from the increased flow from the upgraded pumps. Repairs were carried out and an air valve replaced on the pumping main to ensure air is expelled and lessen the risk of further bursts. Pumps at the Fotherby PS remain at the higher pumping rate to empty the Fotherby sewerage system quicker than before the pump upgrade.

February 2025 – meeting with AWS water recycling network manager – notes compiled. Actions agreed to mitigate further risks of bursts of the pumping sewer from Fotherby to Louth and maintain pumping regime from Utterby to Fotherby pumping stations to reduce loss of sewerage service/sewer flooding in Allenby Crescent. Repairs carried out to access track to sewerage pumping station following tankering activities during burst rising main and replacing of air valve on Louth rising main.

March 2025 - ELDC undertook gully cleansing and road sweeping at Peppin Lane and Allenby Crescent surface water flooding hotspots to increase capacity for road gullies to take heavier rainfall

March 2025 - road sweeping noted along entire length of Louth Rd where kerbs exist to remove autumn debris from gutters to improve road drainage to gullies

2025 Update – 2025 saw fewer named storm events than in prior years where significant rainfall had previously fell in very short periods leading to significant surface water runoff from local fields. However, near year-end, we had seen significant, moderate and sustained rainfall carrying forward into early 2026 leading to 5 of the 8 events recorded in the table below. Regular drives around the village were undertaken during rainfall events and whilst surcharging was seen in Allenby Crescent, no surcharging was noted in either Peppin Lane corner or Church Lane manhole suggesting that the sewer system in Fotherby had rarely over topped during 2025. The surcharging of the combined sewer in Allenby Crescent with some loss of toilet facilities continued to arise from high pumping rates from Utterby PS and the catchment upstream.

During surcharge of the pumped sewer in Allenby Crescent, spills of sewage occur leading to localised & temporary pooling on the road. Attempts to encourage improvements to road drainage into the roadside ditch have not been successful this year despite dialogue with the local landowner and the ELDC Flood Officer.

This flood record was published for the first time in 2025 on the FPC website together with reporting forms to encourage residents to report flooding issues. Resident reports were captured monthly by the Parish Council, and the annual record of reports was created below. This continues into 2026.

In early 2026, a summary of residents' reports for 2025 including a covering e mail and a link to this Flood Record was sent by Fotherby PC to all key stakeholders including Anglian Water, ELDC Planning, the Environment Agency, LCC, South

Holland DC, Lindsey March IDB and local Councillors. Positive responses were received from several stakeholders confirming that Fotherby PC and the community were taking a leading approach to managing and supporting flood risk management and that this should continue. An annual update of this Flood Record will continue to maintain this record as a live document.

FPC FLOOD REPORTING RECORDS FROM RESIDENTS 2025					<i># event number added to identify wet weather events where several reports may be submitted</i>	
Date	Time	AW Ref	FixMy St Ref	Location	Comments	Event No#
15/04/2025	12:54		2841405	Main Rd near Manna Farm	Blocked highway drains	1
28/05/2025			2845024	Main Rd near Manna Farm	Blocked highway drains	2
21/07/2025	13:06		2850254	Main Rd near Manna Farm	Blocked highway drains	3
14/11/2025	16:30		2861551	Main Rd near Manna Farm	Blocked highway drains	4
14/11/2025	16:30	28470664		Allenby Cres near 10/11	Surcharging sewer cover in highway	4
29/11/2025				Allenby Cres near 10/11	Surcharging sewer cover in highway - observation on drive past	5
29/11/2025	09:50		2863417	Main Rd near Manna Farm	Blocked highway drains	5
09/12/2025	11:00			Allenby Cres near 10/11	Surcharging sewer cover in highway - observation by land tenant	6
09/12/2025	12:10	28609519		Allenby Cres near 10/11	Surcharging sewer cover in highway - 12mm rain overnight	6
16/12/2025	10:30	28645370		Allenby Cres near 10/11	Surcharging sewer cover in highway - no surcharge in sheep field end Church Lane	7
16/12/2025	10:29	24845347		Allenby Cres near 10/11	Surcharging sewer cover in highway - 18mm rain overnight	7
18/12/2025	18:07	28655280		Allenby Cres near 10/11	Surcharging sewer cover in highway	8

It was noted that Anglian Water carried out several planned maintenance visits across the Fotherby sewerage system including the installation of sensors within several manhole chambers which we understand is to monitor and gather level & flow information. This was seen to be encouraging in supporting a greater understanding of the behaviour of the sewerage system during extreme flow events to inform further potential mitigations to prevent loss of service to several residents.